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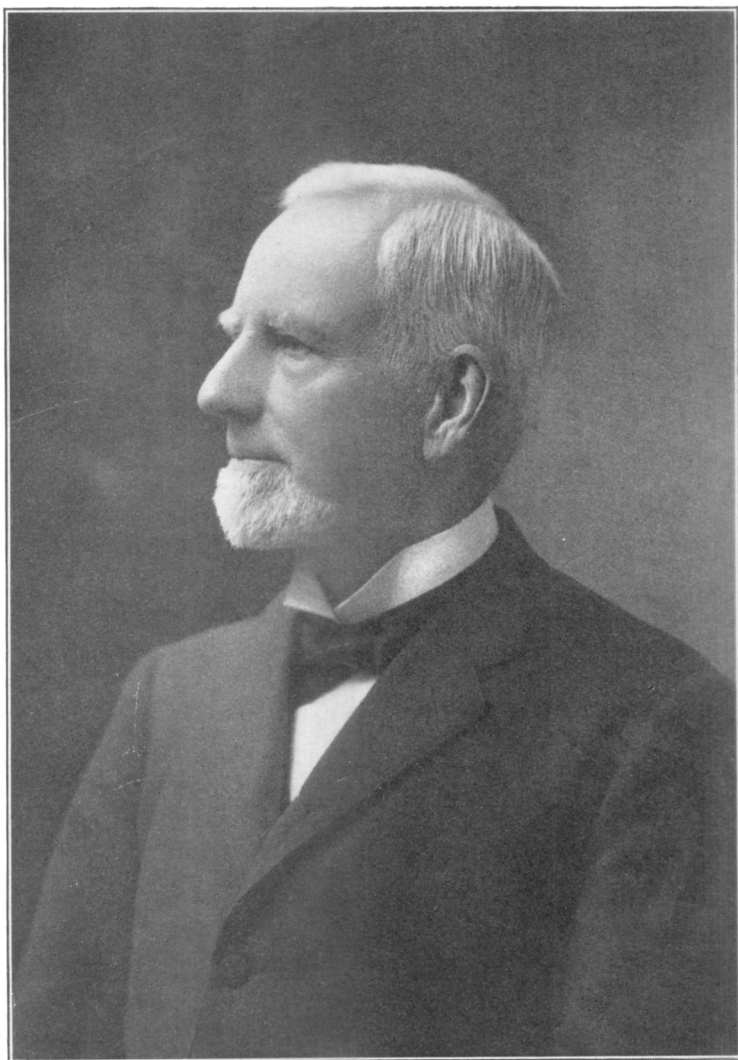
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REV. EDWIN S. WALKER.

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Rev. Edwin Sawyer Walker died at 8 o'clock Thursday evening, August 15, 1912, at his residence, 1125 S. Fifth st., Springfield, Ill., after an illness of six days of heart trouble, aged 84 years.

Mr. Walker was born in Whiting, Vermont, August 11, 1828, and was permitted to enjoy the society of a few of his most intimate friends in the celebration of his eighty-fourth birthday anniversary on Sunday, August 11, 1912.

His early life was spent upon the farm, with but few opportunities for an education, until reaching the age of 16, when he was privileged to attend the Barkersfield Academical institution for one term. This experience stimulated the desire for an education to such an extent that in 1850, he decided upon a thorough and complete education preparatory to entering the Christian ministry. Without means other than such as he obtained by his own effort, in manual labor and teaching school, he secured the degree of A. B. in 1856, from the University of Rochester, N. Y., which was followed by a theological course in the theological seminary of the same institution, graduating in 1858.

Mr. Walker's early experience led him to believe that any young man really in earnest could obtain a college education by his own effort.

After completing his theological course he was ordained and settled as pastor of the First Baptist Church in Dansville, N. Y., serving that church two years. He resigned and accepted the pastoral work of the First Baptist Church of Ripon, Wis., where he remained two and one-half years, when in 1863, he resigned and accepted the pastorate of the First Baptist Church in Sparta, Wis., remaining with that church for three and one-half years, at which time a growing bronchial difficulty

had so far advanced that he was obliged to give up the ministerial calling. In order to secure a more congenial climate, in 1866, he came to Springfield, where he continued to live until his death, being engaged in the fire and life insurance business. In 1866, he received from his alma mater the honorary degree of A. M. Although devoted to business pursuits, he occasionally indulged his taste in literature and book publishing, as well as frequently preaching to churches temporarily without pastors.

Mr. Walker, was a good sermonizer, and wielded a ready pen, as is evidenced by his having written "Oak Ridge Cemetery, Its History and Improvements, Rules and Regulations," "National Lincoln Monuments and Other Monuments," "Charters, Ordinances and Lists of Lot Owners," and also "The Lincoln Monument with Illustrations," and a concise and complete history of the Baptists in central Illinois.

Mr. Walker has been an ardent worker for the building up and development of the city of Springfield, the actual needs of which none knew better than he, and has left a lasting monument, the Lincoln library, as a crowning work of his indefatigable energy. It was he who opened up the correspondence with Mr. Carnegie that resulted in the erection of the beautiful library building, located on the northeast corner of Seventh st. and Capitol av.

Mr. Walker was a member of the New England Genealogical Society, Chicago Historical Society, Illinois Historical Society, and Sons of the American Revolution of Vermont, all of which societies are in a measure indebted to his facile pen.

In 1858, Mr. Walker was married to Miss Emily M. Hunt, of Fairfax, Vermont, who died August, 1868, and was buried in Oak Ridge Cemetery, leaving two sons, George H. Walker, now a prominent attorney and Robert C. Walker, a successful dealer in real estate, both of Seattle, Washington.

In 1870, he married Miss Harriet J. Weeks, of St. Albans, Vermont, so well and favorably known in Springfield, who with her son, John E. Walker, first assistant United States attorney for the southern districts of New York, and the two sons above mentioned and five grandchildren, constitute the surviving members of Mr. Walker's family. He has two living sisters, Mrs. L. H. Washington, an active and efficient

temperance worker and author, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and Miss Fanny Walker, of Green Lake, Wisconsin, and a brother, Albert H. Walker, of the city of New York, a prominent patent attorney and a recognized authority on patent laws in both the United States and Europe.

The funeral services were held in the Central Baptist Church, of which he had been a faithful and consistent member. The burial was in Oak Ridge Cemetery.